FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 NOVEMBER 1985

Hijacking of Egyptian Plane

Fifty people, including four hijackers, were killed when Egyptian commandos stormed aboard a hijacked Egyptian airliner at Valletta airport 24 November, a Maltese Government spokesman announced in a statement reported by AFP. Only 25 people in the aircraft survived, he said, noting that many of the victims suffocated as a result of a fire caused by handgrenades thrown by the hijackers in response to the commando assault. He noted that the hijackers killed three people, including two Israelis, before the commandos stormed the plane. The leader of the hijackers is still alive and is being treated in a Valletta hospital, Cairo radio reported. Initial reports by Cairo radio on the commando operation did not mention the casualties aboard the aircraft but stated that Egyptian commandos successfully stormed the plane and rescued the passengers. As for the identity of the hijackers, who seized the Egyptair plane on a flight from Athens to Cairo, Egyptian papers cited by MENA reported that four of them were Palestinians. The hijackers spoke with Palestinian accents though they stated that they belong to the "Egyptian Revolution," according to an Egyptian passenger quoted by AFP, which noted that this organization has claimed responsibility for attacks on Israeli diplomats in Cairo. Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said, however, that he believes the organization does not exist, MENA noted. The "Egypt Liberation Organization" claimed responsibility for the hijacking in a statement to Kuwaiti papers cited by AFP. In response to the commando operation, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak expressed "deep regret over the loss of innocent lives" and regretted the involvement of "certain Arab countries in these criminal acts," MENA reported. "The available information indicates that the terrorists who carried out this despicable mission belong to a Palestinian group opposed to the PLO, which works for an Arab country notorious for its terrorist policies and aid to terrorists," a statement by an "official source" carried by Cairo radio reported. Defending the commando operation, the source cited the pilot as saying the situation had become "extremely dangerous." Further delay, the source said, would have led to more bloodshed. The PLO Central Council issued a statement describing the hijacking as "dastardly" adding that it was aimed at harming the Arab nation and its image. In a cable to President Mubarak, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denounced the hijacking and those who were behind it, and said the operation was aimed "at confronting Egypt's distinctive pan-Arab role."

Egyptian Military Alert on Libyan Border

Voice of Greater Arab Homeland Radio cited a JANA report that Egypt has placed its forces on maximum alert near the Libyan border. Egyptian military sources confirmed the state of emergency in the area but did not indicate whether the move is connected with the hijacking, according to Muscat radio.

Lebanon

Amal-PSP Clashes — Recent events will not prevent the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and the Amal Movement from continuing their joint political line and struggle to "liberate" Lebanon, PSP leader Walid Junblatt and Amal leader Nabih Birri declared in a joint statement broadcast by Beirut radio 24 November. The two sides have formed a joint strike force to clear the warring gunmen from the streets and punish violaters, the statement noted. In related remarks reported by AFP, Junblatt acknowledged that he had made a "blunder" and accepted responsibility for the fighting, dubbed the "war of the flags" because it began when PSP militia attempted to get rid of Lebanese flags in West Beirut. "Life has returned to normal," in West Beirut 25 November following the 3 days of fierce fighting, according to Beirut radio. Earlier, in a telephone conversation with President Amin al-Jumayyil, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad promised to do his utmost to end the Amal-PSP clashes and agreed to speed up attempts to secure political accord after the restoration of normal conditions in West Beirut, Beirut radio noted. An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio also called for an end to the bloodshed as soon as possible.

Syrian Zone — Syria has replaced its antiaircraft missile batteries in the Sannin area with new SAM systems operated by Soviet experts in anticipation of a surprise Israeli attack in the Al-Biqa' area, the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH* stated in a report cited by KUNA.

Christian Politics — Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Elie Hubayqah sharply criticized the Phalangist Party leadership in a 22 November speech broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, asserting that it is "high time for this leadership to realize that there can be no retreat from the plan for change." Hubayqah contended that the party has "failed in the presidency of the republic" and he accused a "small minority" of making the party "more and more petrified."

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi General Command Communique carried by Baghdad radio announced a successful 22 November air raid on Khark Island and a communique carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio disclosed a 23 November air attack on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. Iraqi planes also attacked Khark Island and a big maritime target 24 November, according to a military spokesman cited by INA. Manama's *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported that a Qatari ship sank in the Gulf 21 November, and IRNA claimed the sinking was the result of an Iraqi air attack. As for other effects of Iraq's air attacks, "London oil traders" cited by the *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported that only two berths of Iran's main Khark Island loading jetty were

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U.S. Condemned; Solidarity With Libya Proclaimed

LD231032 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Kabul, November 21, BAKHTAR: The futile and provocative activities of the Reagan administration against Libya is another proof of the state terrorism policy of Washington being pursued by the U.S. Administration against developing countries.

The fact that Libya was a foreign military base before the revolution of 1964 (?has shown) independent and active anti-imperialist policy, has provoked the enemies of that (?country).

The U.S. hostility against the free-born and peace-loving nation of Libya has embodied in the forms of armed instigations, conspiracy and terrorism against the country. [sentence as received]

The military manoeuvres of "Bright Star", bombardment of objectives by the U.S. B-52 planes in the vicinity of Libyan territory and the show of force by the U.S. Fleet No 6 in the Mediterranean Basin along with the economic boycott of Libya are among the threatening attempts of the U.S. Administration to inflict military and economic blackmail on Libya.

The export of terrorists to the territory of Libya is another dimension of the interference and hostility of the U.S. imperialism against that country.

The underground conspiracy of the (?U.S.) Administration aimed at attempt on the life of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is another evidence of state terrorism of the Reagan administration.

The people of Afghanistan strongly condemn the aggressive policy of the Reagan administration [word indistinct] the will of the Libyan people and the (?independent policy of the country) and announce their solidarity with the rightful anti-imperialistic struggle of the people of Libya.

Politburo's Najibullah Addresses Border Tribes

LD231108 KABUL BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Kabul, November 21, BAKHTAR: The party and state of the DRA are firmly determined to take every step for the socio-economic and cultural development of (?all states) where Pashtun and frontier tribes are living.

This is stated by Najibullah, Politburo member of the PDPA CC, in his televised speech addressed to Pashtun and Baluchi tribes and nationalities on the occasion of the results of the United Political Day held here for explaining the documents of the High Jirga of frontier tribes. He recalled in his message that the representatives of the tribes and nationalities at the Grand National Assembly had decided that they will make their (?business putting) an end to the undeclared war unleashed by imperialism and its allies, including Pakistani generalism. They had also [words indistinct] let the camps of the bandits, their territories and all encourage and convince the Afghan fugitives through holding Jirgas to return home.

They also endorsed the fact that the Soviet Union is the historical honest friend of the people of Afghanistan at this sensitive stage. Based on the resolutions made by the Grand National Assembly, Najibullah called upon the frontier tribes to talk with the Afghan emigrees, convince them that the door of their homeland is open to them; if they accepted your advice they will return and resume their normal life. [sentence as received] If they did not accept your recommendations you will naturally exile them from your territory. This is an imposed war on Afghan home, Najibullah said in his message to Pashtun tribes. This is a war against Pashtuns. The United States, China and the reaction of Arab and their allies intend to suppress Pashtun, especially the free tribes and Baluchi land, to turn their home to a war ground.

But the party and state of the DRA assure you that the frontier tribes have the revolutionary [words indistinct]. The frontier tribes did not have such a bulwark prior to the April revolution of 1978. If imperialism and its lackies encroach upon Pashtuns and Baluchis, Afghanistan with all its might will deter their aggression.

The achievements of the party and state of the DRA in respect of Islam in the past revolutionary years are more than what were done by the anti-people governments in the past (?years).

The party and state of the DRA, Najibullah stressed, want peace and we assure you that we hate war but what to do (?with) the enemies from thousands of kilometres away who (?interfere in) the internal affairs of the DRA, arm our own countrymen and fight against us.

Najibullah called upon all the Pashtuns to become united with all the frontier tribes as he expressed confidence that the final victory of the Afghanistan lies in their unity.

DRA Armed Forces Crush Counterrevolutionaries

LD231002 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0435 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Kabul, November 21, BAKHTAR: As a result of successful operations carried out by the Armed Forces of the DRA with the cooperation of local people, forty bandits were crushed and a large quantity of arms and ammunitions were seized from them in Bagrami District of Kabul Province, Farah and Oruzgan Provinces, southwest of the country.

The arms and ammunition included 19 ground to ground rockets, 96 fieldguns, more than 20 thousand bullets, anti-personnel and (?antitank) mines, and many of their depots (?and hideouts) were destroyed.

Other 'Successful' Operations

LD242250 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] As a result of the successful military operations recently carried out in the environs of Dahaneh-ye Ghowri subdistrict, Baghlan Province, by the heroic officers, NCO's and men of the infantry units of Baghlan, a number of the armed rebels were crushed. Two DShK's, a recoilless rifle, 27 rocket launchers, 45

various weapons, 3 [word indistinct] machinegun, a heavy machinegun, a 105 communication unit, over 150,000 rounds of various weapons, 106 mortars and a quantity of propaganda leaflets, proving counterrevolutionary links with the reaction of the region and U.S. imperialism, were seized. Seven ammunition depots and six of their food depots were destroyed.

Moreover, 75 men from Chemtal Village of Baghlan Province, who had been under the influence of the counterrevolutionaries for a while and working against the revolutionary government, after perceiving the truth about the April Revolution, have joined, while armed, the heroic infantry units and companies of Baghlan. They were warmly welcomed by those forces' personnel.

Quoting a spokesman of the country's security forces, a BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations carried out by the country's security forces in the surroundings of Nangarhar Province, 30 counterrevolutionary elements belonging to the Eslami and Etehad bands were crushed. A ZK-1 with one spare barrel, five DShK's, a mortar, 2 weapons, 2 grenades, 7,000 rounds of ZK-1 ammunition, 13,000 rounds of DShK ammunition, 400 mortar mines, 800 shells, rocket launchers, 24 antitank mines and 200 kg of explosives were seized by the country's security forces.

The report adds that six weapons caches and six foodstuff depots of the enemy were also destroyed during these operations.

BAKHTAR: 'Counterrevolutionaries' Kill 5 in Helmand

LD231606 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Kabul, November 21, BAKHTAR: The bandits, by launching a U.S.-made ground-to-ground rocket on a residential site in Helmand Province caused the death of 5 persons and the serious injury of 5 others.

The victims of this inhuman crime, committed by the counterrevolutionary elements in Helmand Province (south of [word indistinct] included children, women and elders. The residents of the province, by holding a grand meeting in the Helmand congregational mosque, expressed their profound [word indistinct] and indignation over the criminal deeds of the bandits which are abetted and supported by the imperialist powers.

Clandestine Reports Recent Attacks on Soviets

GF221604 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 21 Nov 85

[Text] According to our reports, the Soviet occupation forces and Karmalist mercenaries recently carried out a barbaric operation in Lowgar Province, murdering a number of innocent people of the region. In a retaliatory operation carried out by our crusading brothers on 27 October against the infidel enemy, 16 enemy personnel were annhilated. Our crusading brothers in a second operation carried out on 29 October against the infidel forces inflicted damage and losses on the enemy forces. As a result of this attack carried out in (Dahnow) in Lowgar Province, some 24 infidels were annihilated.

Another report indicates that because of the extreme pressure by our crusaders against the occupation forces in Nimroz Province, the enemy has considerably increased its military presence in the province in recent weeks. With the coming winter, fuel needed by the occupation forces is being transported to the region by tanker aircraft.

Another report indicates that on 9 November, during an armed clash between our Muslim crudaders and the mercenary government forces in (?Chonsur) in Nimroz Province, the infidel enemy suffered losses and damage, as a result of which 5 Karmalist mercenary trenches were destroyed and 25 were annihilated by the fire of our crusading brothers. The report adds that an enemy clothing and food storage building was set on fire by our Muslim crusaders.

Prime Minister Hails Outcome of Geneva Summit

BK241600 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] The prime minister has said that the immediate outcome of the talks between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev in Geneva has improved the atmosphere between the United States and the Soviet Union. He was talking to newsmen in New Delhi this evening. Mr Gandhi said this is important since it has direct consequences for the rest of the world.

Welcoming the categorical declaration that nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, the prime minister said that it would have been better if some concrete nuclear disarmament measures were also announced. The agreement on the principles of reduction by 50 percent in nuclear inventories is also welcomed.

Gandhi on Sri Lanka, Agreement With Pakistan

BK240858 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said violence in Sri Lanka must end to find a lasting solution to the ethnic problem. Addressing a news conference in Minicoy Island this morning on the last day of his 3-day visit to Lakshadweep, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said the security forces and the Tamil militants in Sri Lanka are equally responsible for the eruption of violence. Role of India is to help both the parties in finding a solution to the problem. It is not for India to solve it. Mr Gandhi said our effort is to keep both the parties together.

Replying to a question, the prime minister said India wants to have a broader agreement with Pakistan than a mere no-war pact. What is required is more trade, industrial, and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Industry Minister Meets With Iranian Counterpart

BK231319 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] An Iranian delegation led by the minister for industry, Mr Gholam Reza Shafi'e, today called on the industry minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in New Delhi. The two ministers discussed matters relating to the expansion of bilateral industrial relations and reviewed progress of on-going projects. They expressed the confidence that the two countries can expand industrial cooperation further.

PRC Trade Delegation Holds Talks in Delhi

BK230908 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] A trade delegation from China led by the vice minister for foreign economic relations, Mr Lu Xuejian, met the members of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations [FIEO] in New Delhi today. In his welcome address, the president of FIEO, Mr V.P. Poonj, said there are great opportunities between the two countries to increase their trade and economic links. He observed that the open-door policy of China has come at a most opportune time.

Mr Lu Xuejian in his speech said that his country's open policy is for the whole world, but they will welcome cooperation with the developing countries, particularly its neighbors. He asked the Indian businessmen and industrialists to invest in China as this will help diversify and increase bilateral trade.

Trade Protocol Signed

BK231617 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] India and China have signed a trade protocol for 1986. It provides for imports and exports ranging from about 120 crore rupees to 192 crores. The protocol was signed in New Delhi today by the visiting Chinese vice minister for foreign economic relations and trade, Mr Lu Xuejian, and the commerce secretary, Mr Prem Kumar.

China has expressed its desire to import from India iron ore, manganese ore, steel products, sugar mills, and power station equipment, chemicals, tobacco, finished leather, mining and building machinery, and agricultural equipment. India hopes to import raw silk, silk products, edible vegetable oil, patroleum and patrochemical products, spices, newsprints, and kraft paper.

The Chinese minister hoped that the relations between the two countries would further improve with the signing of the prococol. India had a favorable balance of trade with China during 1977-78 and 1978-79. The balance later shifted heavily in favor of China. It is expected to be corrected as a result of the new protocol.

Trade Agreement With USSR Extended Until 1990

BK221435 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] The rupee trade agreement begween India and the Soviet Union will continue till 1990. This was agreed to after the first round of official-level trade talks between the two countries. The Soviet delegation was led by its deputy minister for trade and the Indian side by the commerce secretary. A trade accord was initiated which will provide for further growth of bilateral trade. The rupee trade agreement enables India to pay for its imports from the Soviet Union in nonconvertible Indian rupee and the Soviet Union uses the fund for buying Indian goods.

SRV Joint Commission To Meet in Hanoi

BK221436 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] The second meeting of the Indo-Vietnam joint commission on scientific, technical and economic cooperation begins in Hanoi tomorrow. The Indian delegation will be led by the external affairsminister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, and the Vietnamese delegation

by its deputy prime minister, Mr Tran Quynh. The joint commission will cover wide range of issues regarding cooperation in various fields. Possibilities of industrial cooperation in setting up small industries will be explored. An agreement has already been signed for the supply of 50,000 [metric] tons of wheat and rice to Vietnam this year. India has helped Vietnam in setting up buffalo breeding center and rice research institute, and the progress will be reviewed. India has also given loan to that country, and it is to be used in the field of railways and textiles. The joint commission will decide the use of loan in these areas.

Regarding cooperation in the field of oil, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has already examined prospects of crude in Vietnam. The commission will examine as to how cooperation in this area can be further developed. India is interested in purchasing more tin from Vietnam, which is about 25 [metric] tons a year at present. India has also shown its interest to buy rubber and edible oil from Vietnam.

More on Akali Dal Militant Faction Resignations

NC222301 Paris AFP in English 2232 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 22 (AFP) — The militant faction of the Sikh party Akali Dal today suffered a major setback when 15 prominent officials resigned, charging party chief Joginder Singh with having a "dictatorial and undemocratic" attitude, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported.

They accused Mr Singh of "flouting" the wishes of the party majority and of issuing a "dictatorial mandate" to boycott elections last September in Punjab, where the militants have been pressing for autonomy, PTI said.

Their decision to step down is considered to be another blow to the militants, whom Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi sought to outflank last July by signing a political accord with the Akali Dal moderate group, led by Harchand Singh Longowal. The agreement, which was rejected by the militants, saw the end of Akali Dal's prolonged agitation for greater political autonomy for the Sikh-dominated northwest border state.

Three months later, state elections were held in Punjab and yielded a handsome majority for the moderates, while the militants boycotted the poll in protest.

Some of the officials who resigned today were facing disciplinary action for flouting the boycott call.

Mr Singh is the father of the militant religious leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was among more than 650 people killed when the Indian Army launched an assault on the Amritsar Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine, in June 1984 to flush out Sikh militants holed up in the complex.

2 Killed in Bomb Blast on Train in Punjab

BK231259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] The Punjab government has warned the general public not to touch any article of unattended luggage. This follows a bomb explosion in a railway coach near the Punjab-Haryana border last night. Two persons were killed and 22 injured when a transistor bomb exploded in a bogey of a passenger train at Shambu railway station. The train was on its way from Nangal to Ambala.

The chief minister of Punjab, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has expressed shock over the incident. He said in Chandigarh today it is very unfortunate that some mischievous elements are still indulging in violence. Mr Barnala has sent his heartfelt sympathies to the families of the bereaved and the injured passengers.

Security Tightened

BK240520 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] In Punjab, security arrangements at the railway stations, bus stops, and other public places have been further tightened. The action follows the blast in a railway coach on Friday night [22 November] killing 2 persons and injuring 22. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that patrolling by the police and other paramilitary forces has also been intensified. He urged the general public to be more vigilant and inform the police immediately if they see any suspicious object or person.

Ziaul Haq Leaves for 'Brief Visit' to Riyadh

BK240623 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Karachi for Riyadh this morning on a brief visit to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of King Fahd. He is accompanied by the ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan. President Ziaul Haq and King Fahd will exchange views on matters of mutual interest. According to the program, the president will return home this evening.

Junejo Returns From PRC Visit, Sends Message

BK231029 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, returned to Islamabad this afternoon after a week-long official visit to China. He was received at the airport among others by the Senate chairman, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, federal ministers, and other high officials.

In a message from the plane to the Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo expressed his confidence that Pakistan-China friendship would continue to grow in strength and serve the cause of peace and stability in the region and in the entire world. He said his visit to China has afforded an opportunity to meet the Chinese leaders, including veteran leader Mr Deng Xiaoping, President Li Xiannian, and Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang. He said he had immensely benefitted from his comprehensive exchange of views with them and learned a great deal from their sagacity and experience. The most satisfying aspect of these in-depth discussions, he said, was a close identity of views and perceptions that Pakistan shares so happily with China on all regional and international issues. He said it was his earnest hope that the exemplary relations in the political field between the two countries will be equally expanded and consolidated in the economic and other fields.

He expressed his deep gratitude and profound affection for the warm reception and gracious hospitality extended to him and his delegation throughout their memorable visit to China. He said the memory of the affection and esteem of the people of China for the people of Pakistan will always be cherished by each one of us and will form an indissoluble link in the close and special bilateral relations between the two countries which have been distinguished by mutual sincerity and solidarity.

The prime minister said he had been deeply impressed by the outstanding achievements of the people of China in their endeavors towards economic, technological, and industrial advancement of their great country. China is now firmly set on the path of greater progress under its modernization program. He reiterated his invitation to the Chinese prime minister and said the people and the Government of Pakistan would eagerly look forward to welcoming him in their country once again.

Comments on Talks

BK231612 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Junejo has described his visit to China as memorable and very useful. He was addressing a press conference at Islamabad airport on his return this afternoon from a week-long visit to China. The prime minister said the affectionate welcome given him and his delegation reflects very strong friendship between the two countries and the Chinese people's love and affection for the Pakistani people.

The prime minister said he exchanged views with the Chinese leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping; President Li Xiannian; Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang; and other Chinese leaders on many important issues. He added that there was complete identity of views during the talks on international, regional and bilateral matters. He also discussed the Afghanistan problem with the Chinese leaders, and they fully supported the principled stand of Pakistan that this problem should be solved in accordance with the UN resolutions. The Chinese leaders also supported the continuation of the indirect talks in Geneva to settle this problem.

The prime minister said they also discussed Pakistan-India and U.S.-Pakistan relations. About bilateral relations, Mohammad Khan Junejo said the matters relating to further strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries were also assessed. These include steps increasing trade and promoting cooperation in the economic, agriculture and technical fields. He said the Sino-Pakistan joint commission will meet in January next year to identify ways to promote bilateral trade. China will import from Pakistan fertilizers, leather goods, fruits, and vegetables. It was also agreed to increase trade through the Karakoram highway. China has agreed to provide two 425-megawatt units for the Jamshoro thermal power station. A Chinese team of experts will soon visit Pakistan to assess technical assistance for the Taxilla heavy machinery complex and moulding factory. This will help in manufacturing power turbines to overcome the power shortage in the country. Chinese experts will also visit Pakistan to advise on soybean and mushroom cultivation.

The prime minister said he apprised the Chinese leaders of steps being taken in connection with the democratic process and lifting of martial law by 31 December in the country. He added that the Chinese leaders expressed happiness at the revival of the democratic institutions in the country.

Answering a question, the prime minister said the Chinese leaders think that the summit talks between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev will have a positive impact on the world situation. He said the summit talks would have also definitely discussed the Afghanistan problem.

About the Kashmir issue, he said that there has been no change in Pakistan's stand and that the Chinese leaders fully support Pakistan's stand in this connection.

The prime minister told newsmen that the Siachin Glacier issue was also discussed with the Chinese leaders. He said the glacier is an uninhabited, icy area that has always been under the control

of the Pakistani Government. However, he added, this issue needs to be settled.

The prime minister said China has made tremendous progress since he last visited it 17 years ago, and he was confident that China will be a great, developed nation within a decade. He said China's program of creating self-sufficient small townships to stop rural migration to urban areas has greatly impressed him. He said Pakistan faces the same problem and he will announce a similar program in January to stop rural migration to urban areas. He said this program will aim at overall development of rural areas.

Asked whether India-Pakistan relations were discussed during the talks with the Chinese leaders, the prime minister said Pakistan is engaged in peace efforts with India, and the Chinese leaders support Pakistan's stand about India.

Asked when he would visit India, which President Mohammad Ziaul Haq had mentioned on his return from Oman, Mohammad Khan Junejo said he will meet with the president about this and there is a possibility that he might visit India early next year.

Omani Deputy Prime Minister Arrives for 4-Day Visit

BK240504 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] The Omani deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, Fahar ibn Taymur Al Bu Sa'id, has arrived in Islamabad on a 4-day visit to Pakistan.

uf headlineKarachi Reports Afghan Rebel Attack on Herat

BK250235 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin attacked a military camp near Herat during the 1st week of this month and killed many Soviet-Karmal soldiers. The Soviet-Karmal forces set up this camp recently to crush the activities of the mujahidin in the city and its suburbs. Another report says mujahidin have attacked a military post at Qandahar.

HAIDAR Castigates USSR Threat on Negotiations

GF231514 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu 15 Nov 85 p 3

[Editorial: "The Repercussions of the Fresh Soviet Threat to Pakistan"]

[Text] Three bombs exploded recently in a crowded area in Peshawar. Similar incidents have been reported from parts of the NWFP and the provincial administration says that the Afghan secret service KHAD had a hand in these activities. Armed clashes have been reported in some tribal areas between the Afghan refugees and tribesmen and in another incident in connection with these events, 10 persons were killed. Our representatives in the National Assembly have admitted that this state of affairs is due to Kabul's instigation. Meanwhile, Afghan artillery continues to pound our frontiers.

In light of these events, we had earlier expressed our opinion that Moscow and Kabul have now adopted the policy of increasing pressure on Pakistan so that we will be coerced into entering into direct talks with the Karmal administration. The Soviet representative's recent speech at the UN General Assembly provides concrete proof of our fears. Reiterating the accusation against Pakistan carrying on an undeclared war against Afghanistan, he claimed that there were 120 training camps for Afghan counter-revolutionaries in Pakistan where Afghan insurgents are given guerrilla training and sent into Afghanistan to commit subversion and arson. They are alleged to have destroyed 2,000 schools, 130 hospitals, 500 mosques, and hundreds of dams and bridges, according to the Soviet representative. He claimed that conditions have reached a stage when problems can only be resolved through direct negotiations. This statement implies the threat that if Pakistan does not agree now to direct talks, Moscow and Kabul will consider that Pakistan does not want to resolve matters through mutual talks. This veiled threat delivered at the UN General Assembly platform by the Soviet representative can also be interpreted as a warning that there will be a concomitant increase in Kabul and Moscow's retaliatory pressure if there is a delay in embarking on direct talks on the part of Pakistan. In other words, there will be an escalation of the land and air shelling of our border areas and arsonist activity, such as bomb explosions, fomenting of internecine strife in the tribal areas, and other such activities. Such fears are not groundless. We have seen such manifestations in the past and hence there should be no margin for doubt.

We have tangible evidence that arsonists in the guise of Afghan refugees are in our midst. It seems probable that in the near future more uninvited Afghan guests will be entering our country; among them, the ratio of terrorists will be much greater. In view of these not so unfounded fears we appeal to the Pakistan Government to revise its stance on Afghanistan and to take a realistic view of the situation by agreeing to direct talks so that the Pakistani people do not have to listen to disgraceful news on bombing of the border areas by Afghan aircraft. Nor should they have to put up with the possibility of an exacerbation of tension in the tribal areas and the NWFP and the subsequent dangers.

SRI LANKA

President Comments on Solution of Ethnic Problem

BK230316 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] The Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, says the island's ethnic problem cannot be solved by killing Tamils. The president told the parliamentary group of his ruling United National Party that it is only a small fraction of the people who are indulging in terrorism. Mr Jayewardene said the cease-fire monitoring committee appointed by the government would give impartial reports about violations by both sides.

Meanwhile, the state of emergency of the country has been extended for another month.

Remarks on Security Responsibility

BK231325 Colombo Domestic Service in English
1245 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene says that he alone as executive president and the cabinet, and not any particular minister, are responsible for the security of the country. He told the government parliamentary group yesterday that it was wrong to assume that the minister of national security or any other minister had been entrusted with the security of the country. The president was replying to certain matters raised by members of Parliament regarding criticism by opposition MP's that the minister of national security had not been given enough powers to tackle the terrorist situation and that the Army too have not been given authority to shoot.

Mr Jayewardene stressed that the army is empowered to do all it can to curb and defeat terrorist activities wherever and whenever the situation arose. He added that some people think that the solution of the ethnic problem lay in killing all Tamils. He said people should not fall prey to such foolish propaganda spread by government opponents.

The president said the people should realize that it is only a small section of people who are indulging in terrorism.

14 Killed in Tamil, Security Force Clashes

HK240842 Hong Kong AFP in English 0836 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Colombo, Nov 24 (AFP) — Fourteen people died, at least nine others were wounded and a police station was attacked in three separate clashes between security forces and militant Tamil separatists in eastern Sri Lanka, official sources said today.

The violence yesterday which left six soldiers and eight militants dead came just 24 hours after four major separatist groups wrote to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi warning that if peace could not be obtained in the island "by the force of reason, then it shall be obtained by the force of arms."

The eight militants were killed after police commandos rushed to a spot in Batticaloa District on hearing that the separatists were planting explosives.

Security sources said that two policemen were seriously injured when a vehicle was blown up and that police in another vehicle then fired on the attackers, killing eight of them and recovering some 50 kilograms (110 pounds) of explosives.

In a separate incident later in the day, six soldiers were killed and seven others wounded, two seriously, when separatists blew up explosives they had planted in the road as the soldiers returned to camp from Kokkilai in the northeast, security sources said.

The sources said the explosive charge must have been powerful as it had not only blasted the trailer of the tractor in which the soldiers were riding but had badly mutilated the bodies.

Only a leg and a hand of one soldier was found on the spot, they said, adding that the seven wounded were taken to Anuradhapura Hospital and that some of them were expected to be flown to Colombo today.

In the third incident, militants last night attacked a police station at Batticaloa, the eastern capital, firing several rounds with automatic weapons and small arms, the sources said.

Police repulsed the attack but there were no casualties, the sources said.

Meanwhile, President Junius Jayewardene in an exclusive interview with the island newspaper said that a military solution to the separatist problem was "feasible" but that he did not think it was desirable.

"Too many innocent people can be hurt, and this terrorism involves such a tiny fraction of the Tamils," he said. But he added that "if eliminating violence means a military solution, well then, that's the choice, isn't it?"

Mr Jayewardene said that violence in the north and east could be controlled in about a year but that it might take a few years to eliminate it completely.

Mr Jayewardene also said he appreciated Mr Gandhi's efforts to help resolve the country's ethnic crisis.

But he questioned whether India should "tolerate a situation where its territory is being used for hostile acts against a friendly neighbour."

India has denied peristent charges by Colombo that militant Tamil separatists have guerrilla training camps in southern India from which they launch attacks in Sri Lanka.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority has been waging a bloody campaign for a separate state in the north and east of the country, alleging discrimination by the Sinhala majority.

Assembly of Experts Votes Montazeri 'Next Leader'

LD231302 Tehran IRNA in English 1252 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Afternoon daily *KAYHAN* reported Saturday that the Assembly of Experts who chooses the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran has voted in favor of Ayatollah Montazeri as the next leader.

The daily quoted Hojjat ol-Eslam Barikbin, the Friday prayer leader of Qazvin, as saying that the Assembly of Experts made the decision in accordance with the wish of the majority of the people.

Speaking in the Friday mass prayer, Barikbin said that the Assembly reached the decision in its third current session which started 9 November in the Majlis building in Tehran.

According to *KAYHAN* he said "The Assembly decided that the majority of the people have chosen Grand Ayatollah Montazeri and so it chose him so that the enemies will lose hope and have no way to infiltrate."

"The Assembly then wrote and signed a letter so it will remain as a historic document" he said. "This was an important step that the assembly took."

Addressing the Muslim worshippers he said "This is a day that those who are planning against the revolution from abroad must lose all hope" Kayhan reported. [sentence as received]

Khomeyni's Office Not To Comment

LD231538 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 23, IRNA — Imam Khomeyni's office Saturday denied a report by the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE (AFP) that it would issue a communique about the selection by the Assembly of Experts of Ayatollah Montazeri as the future leader of the Islamic Republic. The news was reported by the evening Persian daily *KAYHAN* Saturday.

Commenting on the *KAYHAN* report, AFP claimed that Imam Khomeyni's office would soon release a communique in connection with the decision of the Experts Assembly.

Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 23 Nov

LD231250 Tehran IRNA in English 1231 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov 23, IRNA — The Hungarian deputy foreign minister in political affairs, Gabor Nagy, arrived here Saturday afternoon.

The Hungarian official will meet and confer with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Agriculture Minister 'Ali 'Abbas Zali during his four-day stay in Iran.

He will also hold talks with deputies of foreign affairs and commerce ministries.

Bulgarian Machine Building Minister Arrives

GF250639 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Mr Ognyan Doynov, the Bulgarian minister of machine building, leading a 20-member economic and industrial delegation, arrived in Tehran yesterday afternoon in order to further expand grounds for cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria. On his arrival at Mehrabad Airport he was welcomed by Mr Behzad Nabavi, the heavy industry minister of our country.

In a short interview with IRNA, the heavy industry minister of our country described the objective of this visit. He said: This trip by the Bulgarian machine building minister is a follow-up to my visit last year, after which a note of mutual understanding was signed in connection with expansion of mutual industrial relations. He said: This trip is taking place 11 months after the note of mutual understanding was drawn up last year. Up to now we have reached positive and fruitful results in carrying out the contents of this note. We hope that this visit will further expand industrial cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Nabavi then noted the positive aspects of this cooperation and said: In connection with the export of various vehicles and some industrial parts from Iran to Bulgaria, discussions have taken place since last year. After examination and sending the parts, agreement was reached on the prices. We have reached rather good and positive results on this.

Industries Minister Leaves for Talks, Fair in India

LD221507 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov 22, IRNA — Iran's minister of industries, Gholan Reza Shafe'i left for New Delhi Friday morning on an invitation from the Indian Government. The industries minister is to discuss Iran-India economic relations in his meetings with Indian officials.

Shafe'i is also to visit India's Seventh international fair, currently being held in New Delhi, and attend a ceremony marking Iran's national day in the Iranian pavilion at the fair.

Increase of Iran's non-oil exports to India, and ways and means for implementing earlier business trade and industrial agreements between Tehran and New Delhi are among topics to be discussed in the visit.

Thirty five countries, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, and 25 foreign companies are participating in the fair. Samples of Iran's carpets, shoes, chemical and herbal medicines, dried fruits, handicrafts and other items are on display at the Iranian pavilion.

Cabinet Approves Budgets; Velayati Reports on Trip

LD241343 Tehran IRNA in English 1332 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov 24, IRNA — The Cabinet in its session here Sunday approved the annual budget and the foreign exchange budget for the next Iranian year (to start March 21, 1986).

Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi will present the budget bill to the Majlis for discussion in the next couple of days.

The prime minister who presided over the session, praised the hard work of the government employees and added that misconduct of a few should not be blamed on the rest.

During the session the foreign affairs minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, reported to the Cabinet on his recent trip to Syria, Libya and Algeria.

He told the ministers that the trips helped further strengthening of relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the three countries.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman on W. Beirut Clashes
LD241714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] In connection with the clashes in West Beirut between the Druzes and the supporters of Nabih Birri, which have resulted in heavy human losses and enormous financial damage, a spokesman of our country's Foreign Ministry has stated:

The tragic clashes in West Beirut which, with the use of heavy weapons, have destroyed economic and cultural buildings and homes in West Beirut, and which have rolled the innocent Muslim citizens of Beirut in blood and dust, are a link in the chain of plots by America and the Zionist regime aimed at diverting the genuine anti-Zionist struggle in Lebanon. Unfortunately, the forces and resources that should be reinforcing the front of the struggle against Israel are thus being wasted.

He added: There is no doubt that these clashes and the killing of the Muslim people of West Beirut have wounded the hearts of the Muslims the world over. The Islamic Republic of Iran, while condemning these clashes, also calls upon the Lebanese national and Muslim forces to end this bloodshed as soon as possible and thwart the Zionist plots aimed at fomenting civil war and at partitioning Lebanon.

Emami-Kashani Asks Muslim Unity at Friday Prayers
LD222214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Text] Muslim fellow countrymen held the political-religious Friday prayers throughout the country today.

According to a Central News Unit report, the Muslim citizens of Tehran held this political-religious ceremony under the immate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani, in the course of his sermons offered his condolences for the demise of Imam Hasan-e 'Asgari -- peace be upon him -- and noted the life history of this holy imam, stating: The age of Imam Hasan-e 'Asgari, Imam Hadi, and Imam Javad -- peace be upon them -- was a sensitive one. The 'Abbaside Califas realized the Shi'ite movement and noted the same as a serious danger for themselves.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani, noted the anniversary of the birth of Islam's holy prophet, marking the beginning of Unity Week, and stated: We are on the eve of the happy day of the birth of the prophet of Islam, and we congratulate all Muslims on the occasion of his birthday. By the same token, the next week has been named Unity Week. In this connection, he added: The world of Islam must rise up today to observe and realize that the meeting in Geneva of the leaders of arrogance, discussing their own financial issues, is not and will not be in the interest of the deprived.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani added: The only possible salvation for the world's Muslims is through unity, sacrifice, selflessness, and parting with the body of Islam and joining the spirit of Islam. As 1 billion Muslims enter the spirit of Islam, [they will witness that] there are slogans adorning all its mosques, all of which denounce blasphemy and arrogance, and announce unity and solidarity.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani concluded his sermons by delivering a sermon in Arabic for the benefit of Arab-speaking Muslims.

Building of New U.S. Embassy in Iraq Noted
LD231048 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] The expansion of U.S. relations with the Baghdad regime has compelled Washington to erect a new building for its embassy in Baghdad. Quoting the periodical *MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC DIGEST* of London, IRNA reports:

The new building, which will be constructed at a very high cost in order to safeguard the embassy against any possible danger, has soundproof departments, and some of its nerve centers will be impenetrable to radio waves.

The present U.S. Embassy in Baghdad is the former Interests Section of Washington in Iraq. But now, a year after the disclosure of political relations between the two anti-Islamic governments, the existing building does not meet the needs of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, which will indulge in other activities in addition to its usual embassy work.

On the basis of the same report, an American company will construct the building and although the details of its plan and budget have not been divulged, the London periodical writes that U.S. officials believe that the cost of this building is astronomical.

It is worth mentioning that U.S. embassies abroad, because of their espionage and particularly anti-Islamic activities in the Middle East, are always targets of attacks of Islamic and revolutionary groups. In view of the capability of Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries to destroy several strictly guarded buildings in Baghdad, the United States, fearing such actions, has been forced to undertake an extraordinarily high cost project to build a new embassy in Iraq.

U.S., USSR Discuss Islamic Movement at Geneva

LD221456 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 22 Nov 85

[Station commentary from the "Review of Foreign Radios" program]

[Summary] Foreign radios are discussing the importance of the Geneva summit and the agenda of discussions. One of the topics of discussion is the reduction of the arms race between the two countries. Foreign radios are also noting the vast amounts of money spent by the two superpowers on nuclear weapons.

The announcer continues: "Human rights is another issue for discussions, and it provides a seemingly benign topic for discussion about tense regions in the world where one of the two superpowers has engaged in intervention and aggression and has ignored its rival. The same issue has also been included under another heading — discussion concerning regional crises. Regional crises are, on the whole, due to the crisis and mischief created by one of the two superpowers in various parts of the world, or are due to the movements of colonized people and the reawakening of Muslim nations."

"One clear example of the creation of tension by the superpowers is the war imposed by the Iraqi regime upon the Islamic Republic of Iran; the joint conspiracy of the superpowers in starting that war and in continuing it has become quite clear. For this reason some informed individuals called the Geneva summit a meeting between two instigators of crisis who wish to boast about the consequences of their conspiracies, so that they can gain some concessions from each other. At the same time, America and the Soviet Union have been forced to include rebellion against the East and the West as a new topic in their discussions. In view of the fact that the Islamic Revolution of Iran had a major role in the reawakening of the nations and in their rebellion against the interventions of the superpowers or against the regimes dependent upon the superpowers, a major part of the discussions regarding regional issues has been devoted to the world Islamic movements and their consequences — especially as they have repeatedly confessed that neither America nor the Soviet Union have the ability to control the Islamic movement."

"The dimensions of the Islamic movement are so deep and extensive that not only has it been used as a successful and desirable model by the deprived and oppressed nations of the world, but some signs of this movement have even been manifested inside the territory of the two superpowers; this has further added to the anxiety of the two arrogant giants. In addition to that, the Islamic movement has created an attitude in various nations of doubt and criticism about the aims and aspirations of the two superpowers. At the moment, the label of being pro-American is the greatest blot of shame and a source of misery to individuals and nations who before the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran could quite easily cooperate with America and were in the service of plundering American interests."

American prestige has been harmed as a result of the Islamic Revolution. "While the attitude adopted by the Muslims has forced the dependent regimes to remove themselves progressively from American imperialism and even to express revulsion against America, nevertheless, this has not given the Soviet Union cause for joy and satisfaction. The reason is that the drawing away of those regimes from American imperialism does not mean an increase in the USSR's influence and presence. On the contrary, it is a sign of the expansion and the ever-increasing influence of the Islamic movement in the region and in the Islamic world, which is precisely contrary to the wishes of the leaders of Moscow. There was a time when the Russians rejoiced any time they heard the shout of "Death to America" and regarded it as another step in expanding their world empire. This was due to the lack of a proper model for struggle and to the unawareness of the Muslims of the power of Islam. However, the new model of struggle in the world of Islam has blocked the way to the increasing influence of the Eastern superpower. This is the movement about which Nixon warned the Russians, telling them that they should be worried about the growth of Islamic fundamentalism; not merely because a third of the population of the Soviet Union is Muslim, but also due to the fact the Islamic Revolution is competing with the Soviet revolution among the people of Third World countries in supporting the people of those countries. Therefore, together with officials in the White House, the Kremlin is also equally worried about the growth and expansion of Islamic movements. Both America and the Soviet Union are thinking of finding joint solutions to confront those movements."

President Reagan sent a message to the Soviet people on the eve of the summit meeting and invited Soviet officials to join the United States in fighting against terrorism. "In that message Reagan clearly encouraged the leaders of Moscow to confront Islamic and liberation movements. In view of the fact that in the past American leaders and Western propaganda referred to any liberation movement and revolutionary orders as terrorists, including that of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and as they have not refrained from making any kind of false accusation against us, it is clear what groups and forces in the Islamic world he is referring to when he talks about combating terrorism. This shows that the issue of combating the Islamic movement in the region and the world was among the most important issues included at the top of the agenda of discussions by the leaders of the two countries."

Bahrain Paper Reports Damage at Khark Island

GF240710 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Nov 85 p 2

[Text] Only two berths are operating at the main loading jetty at Iran's Khark Island oil export terminal following an Iraqi air attack five days ago, London oil traders reported.

They said the raid damaged the pipeline serving the island's 'T' jetty and reports said only two of the jetty's 10 berths were operating.

Gulf shipping sources said the November 19 raid had damaged the pipeline, forcing tankers to load on the four-berth 'sea island' jetty on the exposed western side of the island. The 268,000 deadweight-tonne tanker *Castor* was also hit.

The *Castor* was part of a shuttle ferrying oil from Khark to Sirri Island out of the range of Iraqi warplanes.

Iraqi jets raided Khark again on Friday, the 42nd attack since mid-August in an effort to halt Iran's oil exports.

The London traders said they expected delays in loading crude oil at Sirri Island to continue for several days as a result of problems at Khark, and that six or seven vessels were waiting to load.

Fears over delays in loading at Sirri boosted spot oil prices earlier in the week in Asia.

In London, however, a spokesman for the National Iranian Oil Company said normal loading's continuing at Khark and Iran was confident of exporting 500,000 barrels of crude to Japan in December.

Iraqi Planes Sink Qatari Cargo Ship 21 Nov

LD231717 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov 23, IRNA — A cargo ship belonging to Qatar was rocketted and sunk by Iraqi war planes along the territorial waters of Saudi Arabia Thursday [21 November]. The *Al-Mansurah* of Qatar was carrying iron beams to Kuwaiti port.

Two crewmen of the ship were killed, three injured and another one is missing. The injured crew members were rushed to a nearby hospital by coastal guards of Saudi Arabia.

From February 1985, Iraqi war planes have bombarded at least as many as four commercial and cargo vessels belonging to West Germany, Panama, Turkey and Holland at the Persian Gulf or within the territorial waters of Saudi Arabia.

The Baghdad government has as yet published no official report in relation with its bombing of the *Al-Mansurah* ship. The Government of Qatar, too, has not yet reacted to the sinking of its ship by the Iraqi war planes.

Navy Intercepts Eight Ships 24 Nov, Seven Released

LD250705 Tehran IRNA in English 0700 GMT 25 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Now. 25, IRNA — A 23,618-ton Kuwaiti ship, *Ibn Al-Bitar*, belonging to the United Arab Ship Company, carrying goods bound to Iraq, was stopped by the Iranian naval forces in the Oman Sea, 400 kms east of Strait of Hormuz, Sunday.

Military officials said here that portions of the ship's cargo belonged to Iraq, adding that inspection of the ship started Monday morning. Upon completion of investigations, if it is proved that the consignment would boost Iraq's military capability, the goods would be confiscated, the officials added.

The ship has a crew of 43, of which 25 are Bangladesh nationals and the remaining from various other countries.

Iran's naval forces Sunday intercepted seven ships in the Oman Sea which were later released. Investigations showed that their cargo were not destined for Iraq, the officials noted.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly announced that it will not allow passage from the Persian Gulf of ships carrying goods for Iraq which will beef up its war capabilities.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,298

LD231557 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 23 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 23, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants destroyed seven Iraqi bunkers and positions, two personnel carriers, two machine guns and a heavy engineering vehicle in western fronts over the past 24 hours killing and wounding 35 Iraqi troops, reported Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Saturday.

In its Communique No. 2298, the Command said that Iranian forces destroyed an undetermined number of enemy bunkers and watch posts and four personnel carriers in northwestern fronts killing and wounding 10 Iraqi troops.

Iraqi forces suffered losses and casualties as a result of Iranian artillery fire on their positions and troop concentration sites in southern fronts, said the communique.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces silenced Iraqi fire across the Arvand River, reducing their engineering activities, and inflicted losses on them.

The Command also said that over the past 24 hours all Iraqi activities including troop relocation, outpost construction, as well as enemy vehicle movements and marine activities were checked by Iranian artillery fire.

The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was subjected to enemy long range artillery fire, and suffered slight damages during the past 24 hours, the communique concluded.

Communique No 2,299

LD241530 Tehran IRNA in English 1517 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov 24 IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants in a limited offensive launched in Maymak operational region at 0530 hours (02:00 hours GMT) Sunday, inflicted substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi troops.

The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces made the statement and said that detailed reports on the operation would be released shortly.

In its Communique Number 2299, the Command added that more than 20 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and six bunkers and observation posts as well as one munitions depot of the enemy were destroyed during artillery battle in the western fronts Saturday.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, the Islamic fighters checked Iraqi operations and reconnaissance flights of enemy planes, killing at least 20 Iraqi troops and destroying two bunkers and several weaponry positions of the enemy.

Elsewhere, the communique said that artillery fire of Iranian fighters pounded and inflicted casualties on several Iraqi patrol units attempting to infiltrate their positions in Kani Sheikh and Nahr-e 'Anbar regions at 2045 and 2250 (1715 and 1920 GMT) Friday.

Iraq's long-range artillery fire on Abadan, Khuzestan Province, over the past 24 hours, damaged a few houses in the city, the communique concluded.

70 Iraqis Killed

LD241106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] In a 2-hour long battle this morning, the forces of Islam killed or wounded more than 70 soldiers of the aggressive Iraqi Army on the Maymak hills. Our correspondent has sent us a dispatch about this operation which we invite you to listen to:

In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. O Martyr-nurturing ummah of Iran, on the eve of Basij Week, the selfless personnel of the liberating army of Islam fought a 2-hour long battle from 0530 to 0730 hours this morning on the strategic Hill 348, situated to the south of the Maymak hills, killing or wounding more than 70 soldiers of the Al-Mothanna Commando Battalion of the 3d Division of Iraq. The Central News Unit correspondents report that the selfless personnel of the corps of monotheism, in the continuation of their chain operation aimed at weakening and disrupting the Zionist enemy formations, crossed three rows of mines, explosive traps, and barbed wire using mountain combat tactics. In a lightening strike, our forces attacked Hill 348 where the commando units of the enemy were stationed and, using RPG-7 grenades and other light weapons, attacked the personnel positions and weapon emplacements of the mercenary Ba'thist and succeeded in killing or wounding more than 70 enemy soldiers. In this operation, eight foxholes and slit trenches, six observation posts, three machinegun emplacements, two mortar luanchers, one tank, and three enemy vehicles were destroyed and three of their ammunition depots were set on fire. The victorious forces of Islam returned to their bases unharmed. Our correspondents in their reports add that in today's operation the intensive fire of the forces of Islam brought Ba'thist (?columns) under heavy fire as a result of which some damage was inflicted on the enemy's back up units.

Elam Operations

LD241826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Excerpts] In three operations penetrating the heart of enemy positions, the combatants of Islam destroyed 39 assorted enemy emplacements and killed or injured 140 enemy troops.

According to reports received from the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, on the eve of the Basij week, in a 3-hour penetrating operation in the Helaieh sector this morning, the liberating forces of Islam killed or injured more than 70 Iraqi troops.

In this phase of the operation, our mighty combatants crossed obstacles, circular barbed wire, and neutralized several minefields in the Dasht-e Helaleh sector in Ilam Province and attacked the heart of the dying enemy forces, destroying three ammunition dumps, two mortar-launcher positions, eight slit trenches and fox holes, six machinegun and RPG-7 emplacements, and eight observation posts and captured several small arms.

Our combatants returned safely to their bases after dealing heavy blows to the enemy.

In the third penetrating operation, on the southern fronts of Ilam Province, which started in the early hours of this morning, for the purpose of disrupting enemy formations, our mighty combatants crossed minefields, boobytraps and circular barbed wire, and attacked the heart of enemy positions inflicting losses and casualties on the aggressor enemy forces and returned safely to their bases.

Afghans Capture Soviet General; Officials Resign

LD240737 Tehran IRNA in English 0730 GMT 24 Nov 85

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 24, IRNA — Afghan Muslim mujahidin downed a MiG-21 and three helicopters in confrontation with the Soviet-Afghan forces in Qandahar Province, last week.

According to mujahidin sources here, a Soviet Army general was on board the downed MiG-21 who parachuted and was later captured by the mujahidin.

Three Army helicopters later rushed to the areas to release the general, but were downed by the mujahidin and all the army personnel on board the helicopters were killed.

Reports reaching here said that fierce fighting broke out between the mujahidin and an army convoy which was dispatched from Ghazni to Qandahar to face the mujahidin.

Meanwhile Afghan Government arrested three high-ranking personalities of the 'Khalq Party' for helping Afghan mujahidin.

The sources also said that three other government officials including two members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Afghanistan, have resigned.

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26 Nov. 85